CLAIMS

1   1.   A method in a computer system for generating transaction price data for

2   an item, the method comprising:

3   receiving a selection of an item classification;

4   identifying attributes associated with the selected item classification;

5   providing a display of an indication of the identified attributes;

6   receiving an input value for one or more the identified attributes;

7   retrieving records of transactions for items that are classified within the

8   selected item classification and that match the received input value of the one or more

9   identified attributes; and

10   analyzing the retrieved records to generate transaction price data for the item.

1   2.   The method of claim 1 wherein the transaction price data includes a

2   suggested bid price in an auction for an item.

1   3.   The method of claim 1 wherein the records of transactions include

2   records for both fixed-price sale and auction transactions.

1   4.   The method of claim 1 wherein one of the attributes relates to duration

2   of a transaction.

1   5.   The method of claim 1 including receiving a specification of attributes

2   to serve as x and y coordinates for a graph of the transaction price data.

1   6.   The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving of the selection of an item

2 classification includes browsing through a browse category organization.

1　　　　　7.　　The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving of the selection of an item

2　includes receiving a specification of keywords and identifying an item classification that

3　matches the specified keywords.

1　　　　　8.　　The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving of the selection of an item

2　classification includes browsing through an item classification organization.

1　　　　　9.　　The method of claim 1 wherein the selected item classification is not a

2　leaf classification of an item classification hierarchy.

1　　　　　10.　　The method of claim 1 wherein the item classifications are not

2　hierarchical.

1　　　　　11.　　A computer-readable medium containing a data structure, the data

2　structure comprising:

3　　　　　an organization of item classifications of items; and

4　　　　　for each item classification in the organization, an indication of attributes

5　associated with the item classification.

1　　　　　12.　　The computer-readable medium of claim 11 wherein the item

2　classifications are hierarchically organized.

1　　　　　13.　　The computer-readable medium of claim 11 including

2　　　　　an organization of browse categories wherein each browse category is mapped

3　to an item classification.

1　　　　　14.　　The computer-readable medium of claim 13 wherein the item

2　classifications and browse categories are hierarchically organized.

1   15.   A method in a computer system for receiving a specification of

2 attributes relating to an item that is to be the subject of a transaction, the method comprising:

3   providing an association of attributes to item classifications, wherein each item

4 classification may be associated with a set of item-specific attributes;

5   receiving a selection of an item classification;

6   identifying the item-specific attributes associated with the selected item

7 classification; and

8   providing a display of an indication of the identified item-specific attributes.

1   16.   The method of claim 15 wherein the item classifications are within an

2 item classification hierarchy.

1   17.   The method of claim 15 wherein the item classification is not a leaf

2 classification of an item classification hierarchy.

1   18.   The method of claim 15 wherein the receiving of the selection includes

2 browsing through a browse category hierarchy.

1   19.   The method of claim 15 wherein the transaction is auction-related.

1   20.   A method in a computer system for providing price data, the method

2 comprising:

3   receiving a selection of transactions;

4   sending a request to provide transaction price data for the selected transactions;

5   receiving the requested transaction price data, wherein the received transaction

6 price data is derived from the selected transactions; and

7   displaying the received transaction price data.

1   21.   The method of claim 20 wherein the transactions are on-line.

1   22.   The method of claim 20 wherein the transactions are auctions.

1   23.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes a
2 suggested bid price in an auction for an item.

1   24.   The method of claim 23 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested
2 minimum bid price.

1   25.   The method of claim 23 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested
2 maximum bid price.

1   26.   The method of claim 22 wherein transactions include fixed-price sale
2 transactions.

1   27.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an
2 average sale price.

1   28.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an
2 median sale price.

1   29.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes a
2 mean sale price.

1   30.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes
2 mode sale price.

1   31.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an

2 maximum sale price.

1   32.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes an

2 minimum sale price.

1   33.   The method of claim 22 wherein the transaction price data includes a

2 range of sale price data.

1   34.   The method of claim 22 including displaying a graph of the transaction

2 price data.

1   35.   The method of claim 34 including in response to selection of a point on

2 the displayed graph, displaying information describing one or more transactions associated

3 with that point.

1   36.   The method of claim 22 wherein the received selection includes

2 keywords.

1   37.   The method of claim 22 wherein the received selection includes a

2 selection of an item classification.

1   38.   A method in a computer system for specifying attributes relating to an

2 item, the method comprising:

3   receiving a selection of an item classification;

4   sending an indication of the selected item classification;

5   after sending the indication, receiving an indication of an item-specific attribute

6 that is associated with the selected item classification; and

7   displaying an indication of the item-specific attribute.

1   39.   The method of claim 38 wherein the item classifications are within an
2   item classification hierarchy.

1   40.   The method of claim 38 wherein the item classification is not a leaf
2   classification of an item classification hierarchy.

1   41.   The method of claim 38 wherein the receiving of the selection includes
2   browsing through a browse category hierarchy.

1   42.   The method of claim 38 wherein the classifications are classifications of
2   auctions.

1   43.   The method of claim 38 wherein the item classifications are not
2   hierarchically related.

1   44.   A method in a computer system for providing price data relating to on-
2   line auctions, the method comprising:
3   receiving a selection of auctions;
4   generating price data based on analysis of the selected auctions; and
5   providing the generated price data price data to assist a user in auction related
6   activity.

1   45.   The method of claim 44 wherein the auction related activity is bidding
2   at an auction.

1   46.   The method of claim 44 wherein the auction related activity is setting a
2   minimum bid price.

1   47.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes a suggested bid

2 price.

1   48.   The method of claim 47 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested

2 minimum bid price.

1   49.   The method of claim 47 wherein the suggested bid price is a suggested

2 maximum bid price.

1   50.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an average sale

2 price.

1   51.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an median sale

2 price.

1   52.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes a mean sale

2 price.

1   53.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes mode sale price.

1   54.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an maximum

2 sale price.

1   55.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes an minimum

2 sale price.

1   56.   The method of claim 44 wherein the price data includes a range of sale

2 price data.

1   57.   The method of claim 44 including providing a graph of the price data.

1   58.   The method of claim 44 including in response to selection of a point on
2   the graph, providing information describing one or more auctions associated with that point.

1   59.   The method of claim 44 wherein the received selection includes
2   keywords.

1   60.   The method of claim 44 wherein the received selection includes a
2   selection of an item classification.

1   61.   A computer-readable medium containing instructions for causing a
2   computer system to perform the method of claim 44.